

# The State of Washington



## Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, the Washington State Department of Early Learning and organizations worldwide are recognizing early childhood professionals to raise awareness of the importance of quality child care and early learning opportunities; and

**WHEREAS**, quality child care and early learning opportunities are among the best investments we can make to keep our families, communities, economy, and democracy strong; and

**WHEREAS**, we want all children in Washington State to reach their full potential and start school ready to learn and succeed; and

**WHEREAS**, children who have fun, diverse, and engaging early learning experiences are more likely to develop a lifelong love of learning; and

**WHEREAS**, many of Washington's parents – their children's first and most important teachers – rely upon child care providers and educators to offer quality early learning experiences for their children every day; and

**WHEREAS**, the early childhood work force includes devoted child care providers and educators who demonstrate tireless dedication, tremendous commitment, unending creativity and exceptional compassion in caring for our children, and they deserve respect for their invaluable work;

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, Christine O. Gregoire, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim May 7, 2010, as

### *Child Care Provider Appreciation Day*

in Washington State, and I urge all citizens to join me in this special observance.

Signed this 17<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2010

*Chris Gregoire*  
Governor Christine O. Gregoire

